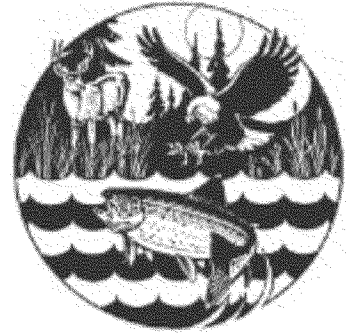


GREAT LAKES INDIAN FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION

P. O. Box 9 ! Odanah, WI 54861 ! 715/682-6619 ! FAX 715/682-9294



MICHIGAN

Bay Mills Community
Keweenaw Bay Community
Lac Vieux Desert Band

! MEMBER TRIBES !

WISCONSIN

Bad River Band
Lac Courte Oreilles Band
Lac du Flambeau Band
Red Cliff Band
St. Croix Chippewa
Sokaogon Chippewa

MINNESOTA

Fond du Lac Band
Mille Lacs Band

August 13, 2014

Via Electronic Mail (Original via Mail)

Gina McCarthy, Administrator
US Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Susan Hedman, Regional Administrator
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region V
77 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

Re: Resolution in Support of Lake Superior Basin and Watershed Mining Analysis

Dear Administrator McCarthy and Regional Administrator Hedman,

I am pleased to transmit to you the Great Lakes Board of Commissioners' Resolution No. BOC-07-29, number of its member Tribes as well as a number of concern about the impacts of metallic mining activities asked the Environmental Protection Agency to fulfill in this regard. As expressed in Resolution No. BOC-07-29, study of the cumulative impacts of mineral resource. See Deschamps, et. al, to McCarthy, May 15, 2014. 1 number of its member Tribes for the Agency to initiate 404(c) of the Clean Water Act with respect to the Basin activities. See Wiggins to McCarthy and Hedman, May 15, 2014.

The Commission appreciates your consideration and will expeditiously undertake the requested actions. We will do so in any way we can. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require additional information.

S

James E. Zorn
Executive Administrator

cc: GLIFWC Board of Commissioners

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Resolution in Support of Lake Superior Basin and Watershed Mining Analyses

RESOLUTION NO. BOC--07-29-2014-01

- WHEREAS, the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) is an intertribal agency exercising delegated sovereign authority from 11 federally recognized Anishinaabe Tribes in Wisconsin, Michigan and Minnesota which have retained hunting, fishing, and gathering rights in territories ceded to the United States in the Treaties of 1836, 1837, 1842, and 1854; and
- WHEREAS, the Commission's mission includes a duty to assist its member Tribes in the conservation and management of natural resources throughout the ceded territories, thereby ensuring access to the traditional pursuits of the Anishinaabeg; and
- WHEREAS, the Anishinaabe lifeway, as recognized and protected by federal courts, depends upon clean and healthy natural resources for cultural, religious, medicinal, subsistence and economic purposes; and
- WHEREAS, myriad threats to the ceded territories and the Lake Superior basin already have negatively impacted, and have the potential to further negatively impact natural resources and, as a result, tribal lifeways; and
- WHEREAS, one such threat is a plan to develop an open pit iron mine in the headwaters of the Bad River watershed, a part of the 1842 ceded territory; and
- WHEREAS, GLIFWC member Tribes have long been concerned about the additive and cumulative effects of mining and other land use changes on the quality and quantity of ceded territory natural resources.
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; that the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission does hereby support the recent request made by several GLIFWC member Tribes to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to study the cumulative impacts of mineral resource development on the Lake Superior basin.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission supports the Tribes' request to EPA that it analyze the Bad River watershed specifically to determine whether the mine proposed there would have "unacceptable adverse effects on fisheries, wildlife, shellfish beds, municipal water supplies, or recreational areas."

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission hereby certify that the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission Board of Commissioners is composed of 11 members, of whom 11 members, constituting a quorum, were present and voting at a meeting hereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 29th day of July, 2014; that an affirmative vote of 11 members; 0 against; and 0 abstaining, and the said resolution has not been rescinded or amended.

Secretary, GLIFWC Board of Commissioners